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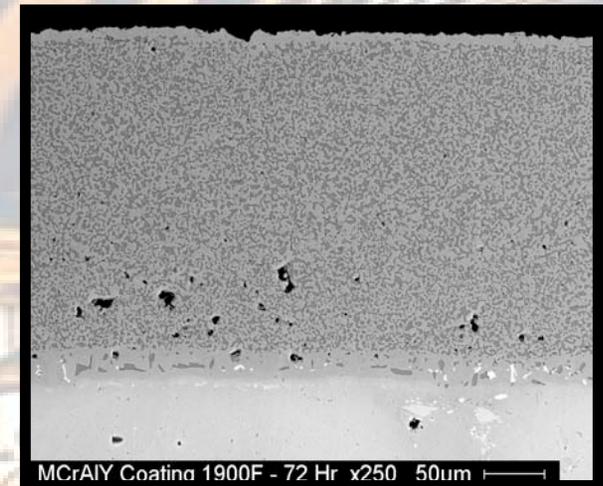
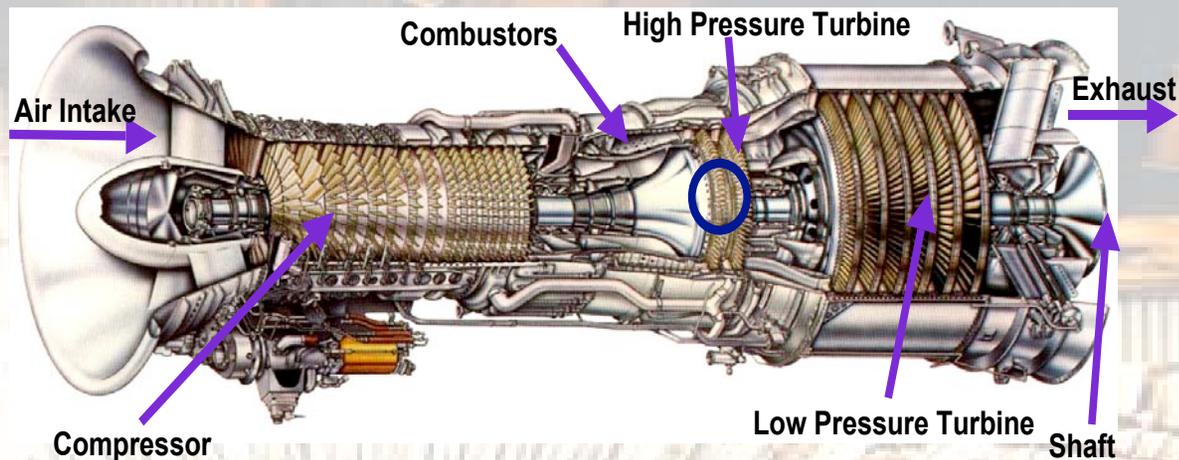
# Superalloy Dependent Stability of $\beta$ -NiAl Phase in NiCoCrAlY Coatings

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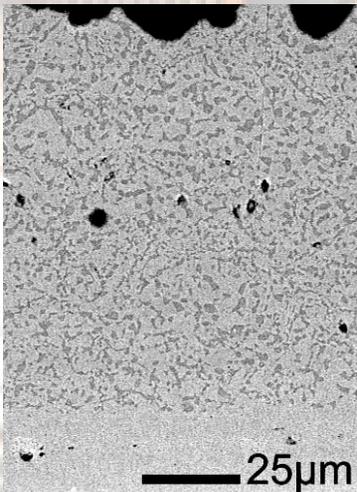
# NiCoCrAlY Coatings in Service



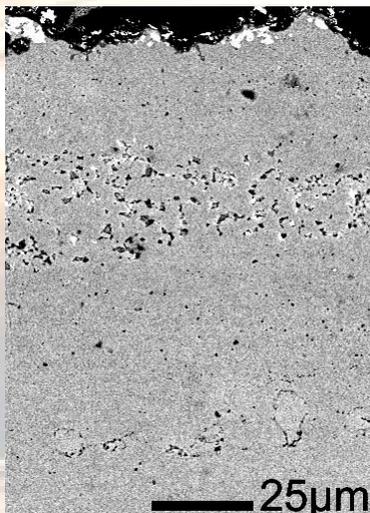
- ✿ NiCoCrAlY coatings are employed in gas turbine engines to protect hot-section components such as blades and vanes against oxidation and hot corrosion.
- ✿ These coatings possess a two-phase microstructure consisting of high Al-content  $\beta$ -NiAl solid solution phase and low Al-content  $\gamma$ -Ni solid solution phase.
- ✿ The coatings are designed to form a continuous protective  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  oxide scale that protects the coating and in turn the substrate.

# Lifetime of NiCoCrAlY Coatings

As Coated



Depleted

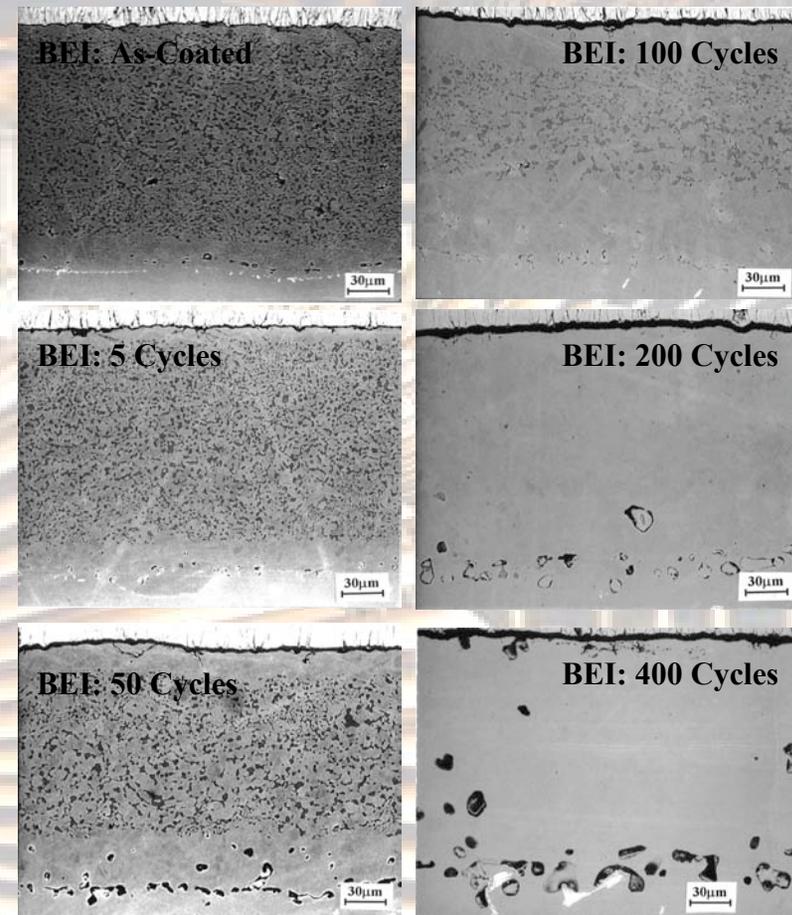
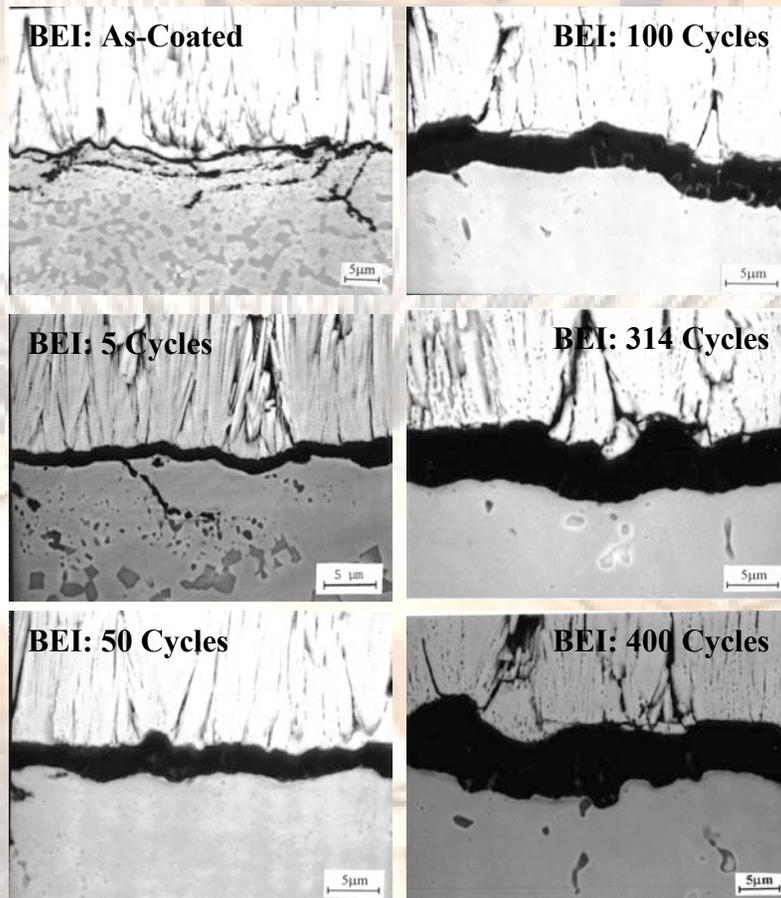


- ☞ The Al rich  $\beta$ -phase in the coating is dissolved from the top and the bottom pseudo interfaces:
  - ☞ Al is depleted on the top by formation and maintenance of a protective oxide layer,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ .
  - ☞ Al is depleted via interdiffusion with a superalloy substrate.
- ☞ As Al depletes, the  $\beta$ -phase dissolves into the  $\gamma$ -phase (Ni Solid Solution).
- ☞ The failure of NiCoCrAlY coatings may be defined by the complete dissolution of  $\beta$ -phase.
  - ☞  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  scale loses continuity

# Oxidation and Interdiffusion: Recession of ( $\beta+\gamma$ ) in NiCoCrAlY

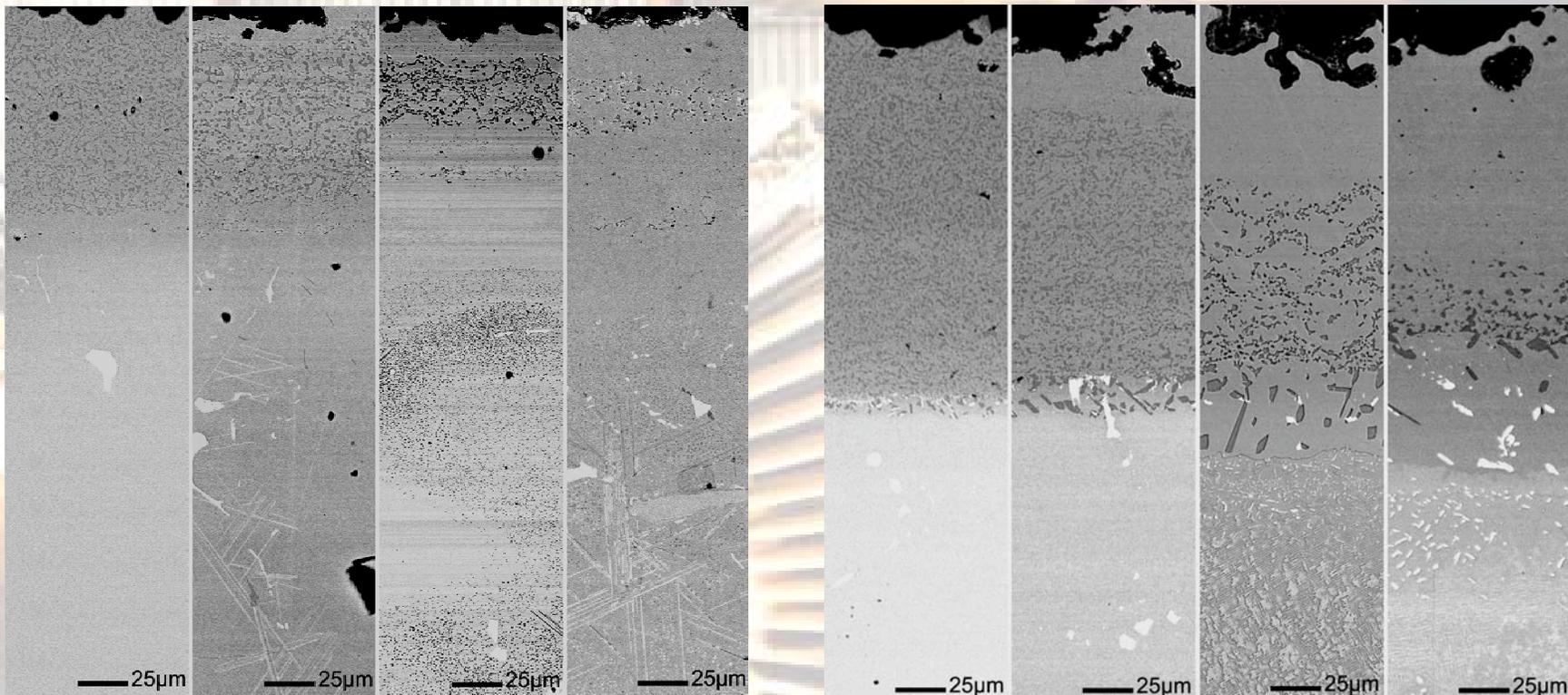
Parabolic Growth of TGO  
 $K_p = 6.3 \times 10^{-3} \mu\text{m}\cdot\text{sec}^{1/2}$

Depletion Zone:  $D^{\text{eff}} = 3.4 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m}^2/\text{sec}$   
Interdiffusion Zone:  $D^{\text{eff}} = 9.3 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m}^2/\text{sec}$



# Interdiffusion and Lifetime of Oxidation Resistant Coatings

- **3X in Lifetime (Measured by Stability of Al-Rich  $\beta$ -NiAl Phase) Can be Achieved by Appropriate Selection of Substrate Composition (Given a Coating Composition).**



Isothermal Exposure Time,  $t$

3 x Isothermal Exposure Time,  $3t$

# Objectives

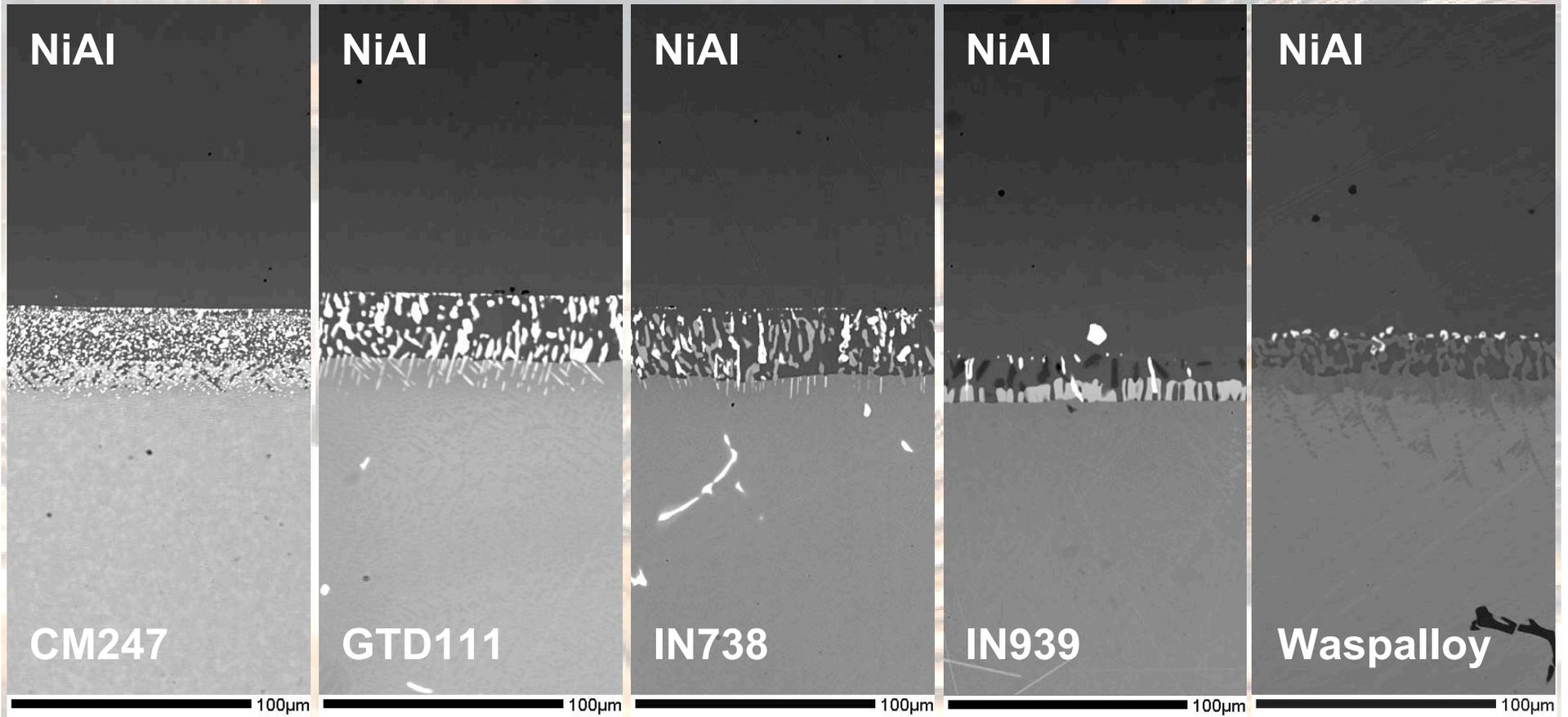
- ☪ Determine/Predict the effective interdiffusion coefficients of Al using solid-to-solid diffusion couples of  $\beta$ -NiAl vs. various superalloys ( $\gamma+\gamma'$ +others) by:
  - ☪ Direct determination of interdiffusion fluxes from experimental concentration profiles in **single  $\beta$ -NiAl phase region**.
  - ☪ Calculation of effective interdiffusion coefficients incorporating the multicomponent diffusional interactions.
  - ☪ Prediction of effective interdiffusion coefficients in **multiphase superalloys** based on mass balance.
- ☪ Examine the composition-dependence of Al interdiffusion coefficients as a function of initial superalloy compositions.

# Experimental Details

- ❁ **Solid-to-solid diffusion couples.**
- ❁ **Equiaxed NiAl vs various commercially available Ni-superalloys.**
- ❁ **Encapsulated in quartz capsule in Ar (1 atm at 1050°C) after several hydrogen flush.**
- ❁ **Diffusion anneal for 96 hours at 1050°C using Lindberg/Blue 3-Zone horizontal tube furnace.**
- ❁ **Diffusion structures examined by optical and scanning electron microscopy**
- ❁ **Concentration profiles determined by Electron Probe Microanalysis (EPMA) using pure standards and ZAF correction.**



# Solid-to-Solid Diffusion Couples



- Excellent Diffusion Bonding Between Alloys.
- Particles rich in refractory elements (e.g., Ta, W, Mo, Nb, etc) are precipitating near the interface between NiAl and superalloys.

# Phenomenology of Isothermal Interdiffusion in Multicomponent System

- ☀ **Onsager's formalism\* for The Interdiffusion Flux of Component i in a Multicomponent System :**

$$\tilde{J}_i = - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \tilde{D}_{ij}^n \frac{\partial C_j}{\partial x} \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1)$$

where  $\partial C_j / \partial x$  is the  $(n-1)$  independent concentration gradients

$\tilde{D}_{ij}^n$  is the  $(n-1)^2$  interdiffusion coefficients

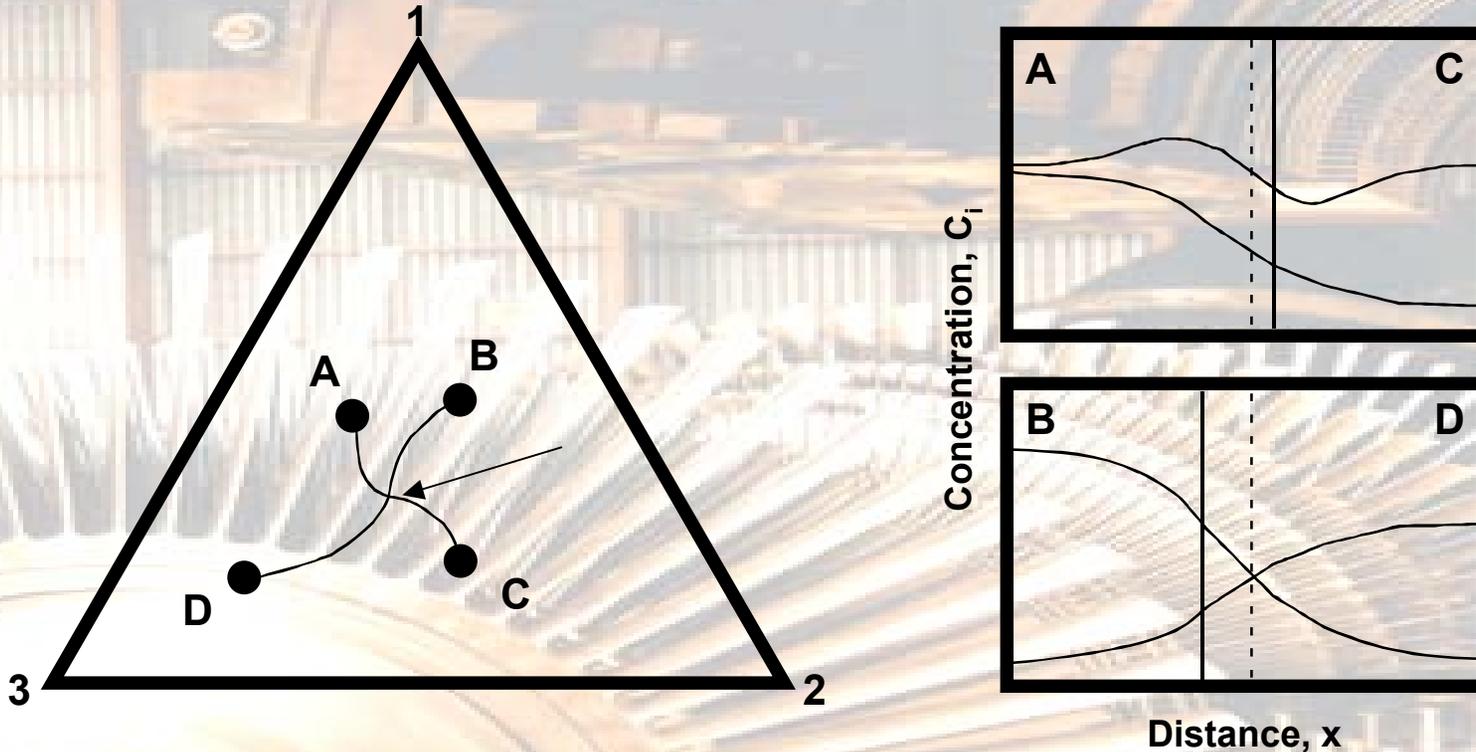
- ☀ **Requires Knowledge of  $(n-1)$  Independent Concentrations and  $(n-1)^2$  Interdiffusion Coefficients.**

- ☀ **For a Ternary Systems:**

$$\tilde{J}_1 = -\tilde{D}_{11}^3 \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x} - \tilde{D}_{12}^3 \frac{\partial C_2}{\partial x} \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{J}_2 = -\tilde{D}_{21}^3 \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial x} - \tilde{D}_{22}^3 \frac{\partial C_2}{\partial x}$$

\* L. Onsager, *Phys. Rev.*, 37 (1931) 405; 38 (1932) 2265; *Ann. NY Acad. Sci.*, 46 (1965) 241.

# Determination of Ternary Interdiffusion Coefficients by Extension of Boltzmann-Matano Analysis\*



- Requires two independent diffusion couples intersecting at a common composition.
- Requires a significant number of diffusion couple experiment to assess compositional dependence of interdiffusion coefficients.

\* J. Kirkaldy, *Can. J. Phys.*, 35 (1957) 435.

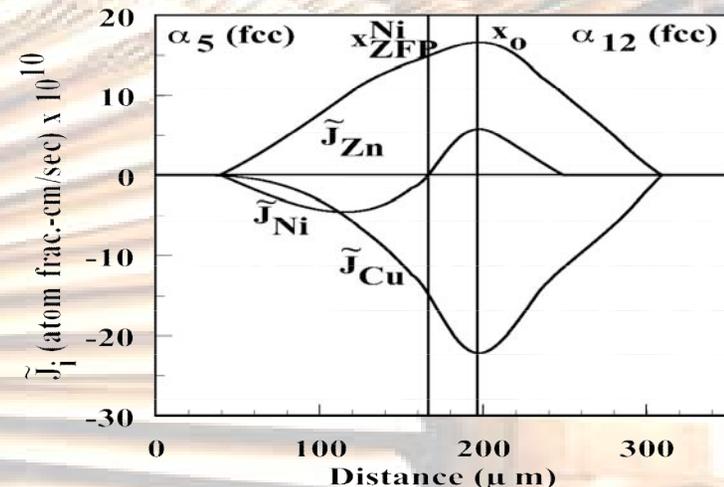
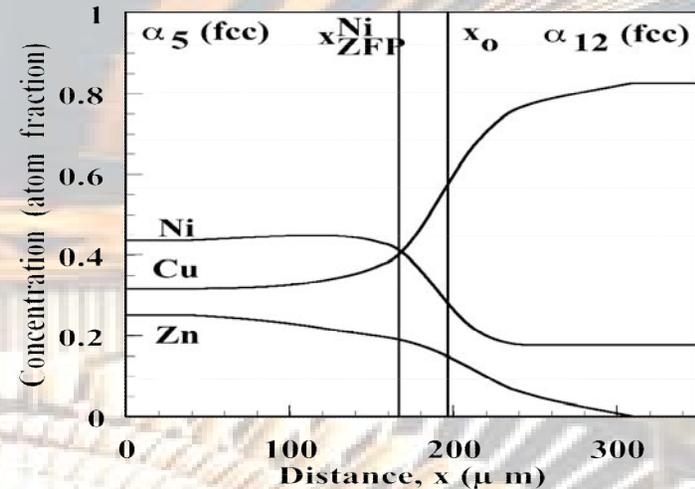
# Determination of Interdiffusion Fluxes

- Interdiffusion fluxes of all components can be determined directly from their concentration profiles without the need of the interdiffusion coefficients:

$$\tilde{J}_i = \frac{1}{2t} \int_{C_i^- \text{ or } C_i^+}^{C_i(x)} (x - x_0) dC_i \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n)$$

where  $t$  is time

- No Need for Interdiffusion Coefficient to Assess Diffusional Behavior of Individual Components.
- Profiles of experimental concentration and the corresponding interdiffusion fluxes of Cu-Ni-Zn couple,  $\alpha_5$  (Cu-43.5at. %-25.0at. %Zn) vs.  $\alpha_{12}$  (Cu-17.5at. %Ni), annealed at 775°C for 48 hours.



# Integrated and Effective Interdiffusion

Integrated interdiffusion coefficients for a component  $i$  in NiAl and superalloy sides can be defined as:

$$D_{i,\text{NiAl}}^{\text{int}} = \int_{-\infty}^{x_0} \tilde{J}_i(x) dx \quad \text{and} \quad D_{i,\text{SA}}^{\text{int}} = \int_{x_0}^{+\infty} \tilde{J}_i(x) dx$$

Effective interdiffusion coefficients for a component  $i$  in NiAl and superalloy sides can be defined as:

$$\tilde{D}_{i,\text{NiAl}}^{\text{eff}} = \frac{\tilde{D}_{i,\text{NiAl}}^{\text{int}}}{C_i^- - C_i^0} = \frac{\int_{-\infty}^{x_0} \tilde{J}_i dx}{C_i^- - C_i^0} \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{D}_{i,\text{SA}}^{\text{eff}} = \frac{\tilde{D}_{i,\text{SA}}^{\text{int}}}{C_i^0 - C_i^+} = \frac{\int_{x_0}^{+\infty} \tilde{J}_i dx}{C_i^0 - C_i^+}$$

Effective interdiffusion coefficients incorporates multicomponent diffusional interactions:

$$\tilde{D}_i^{\text{eff}} = \tilde{D}_{ii}^n + \sum_j \frac{\tilde{D}_{ij}^n \partial C_j / \partial x}{\partial C_i / \partial x} \quad (j \neq i)$$

# Correlation in Interdiffusion Coefficients with Concentrations

Effective interdiffusion coefficients on either side of the analysis can be related to compositions:

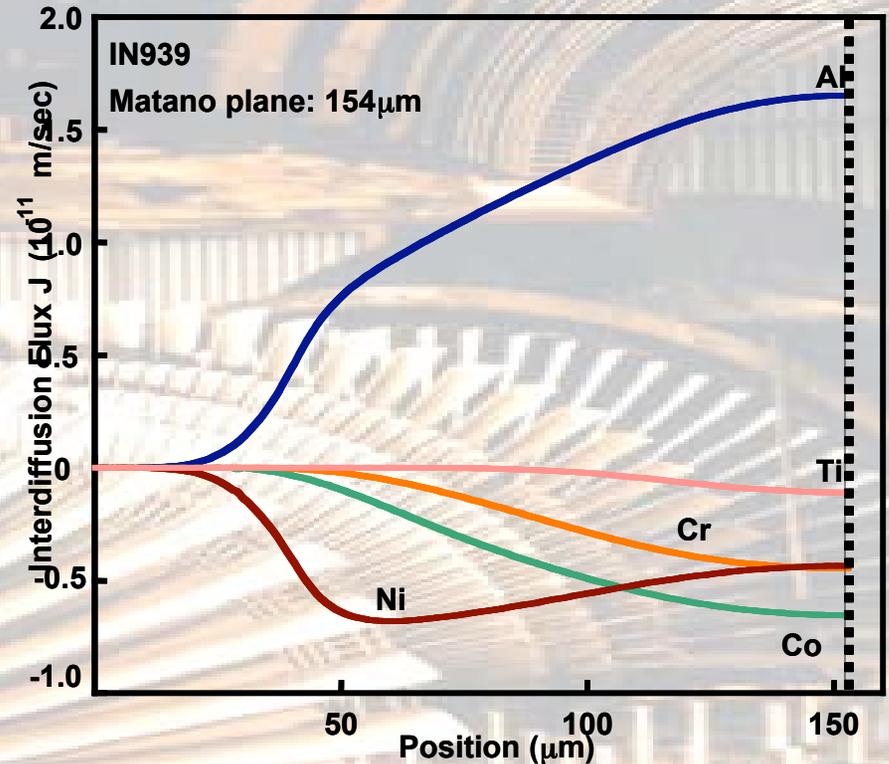
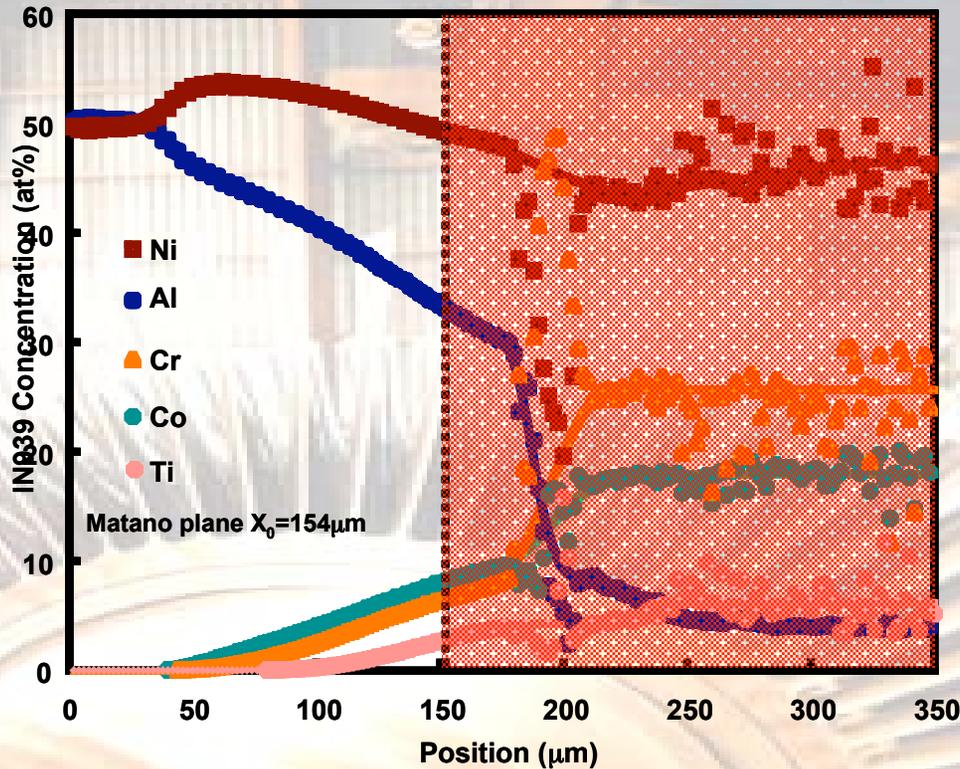
$$\frac{C_i^- - C_i^0}{C_i^0 - C_i^+} = \frac{\alpha_{i,SA}}{\alpha_{i,NiAl}} \frac{\sqrt{\tilde{D}_{i,NiAl}^{eff}}}{\sqrt{\tilde{D}_{i,SA}^{eff}}}$$

and

$$\frac{C_i^- - C_i^0}{C_i^0 - C_i^+} = \frac{\sqrt{\tilde{D}_{i,NiAl}^{app}}}{\sqrt{\tilde{D}_{i,SA}^{app}}} \quad \text{where} \quad D_i^{app} = \frac{\sqrt{\tilde{D}_i^{eff}}}{\alpha_i}$$

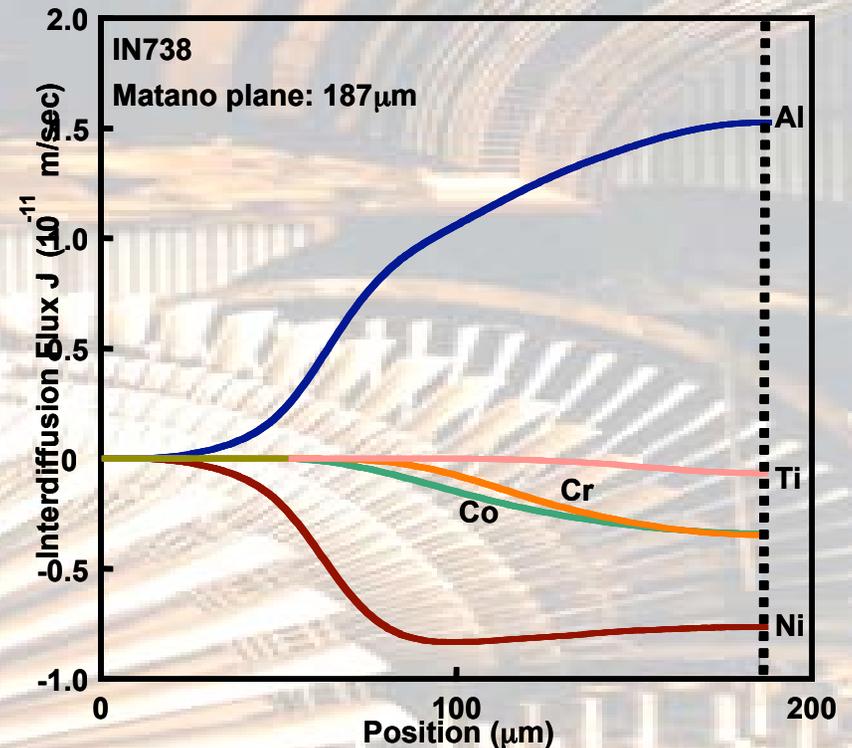
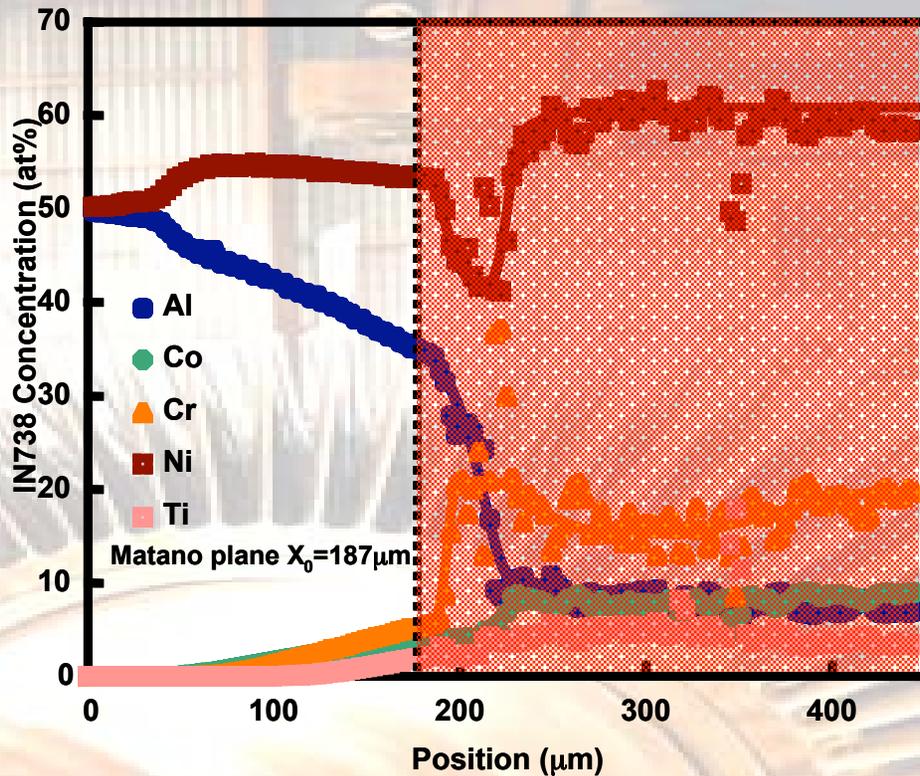
Therefore, interdiffusion coefficients calculated from single-phase region (e.g., NiAl) can be employed to predict those of multiphase regions (e.g., superalloys).

# Profiles of Concentration and Interdiffusion Flux (NiAl vs. IN939 Annealed at 1050°C for 96 Hours)



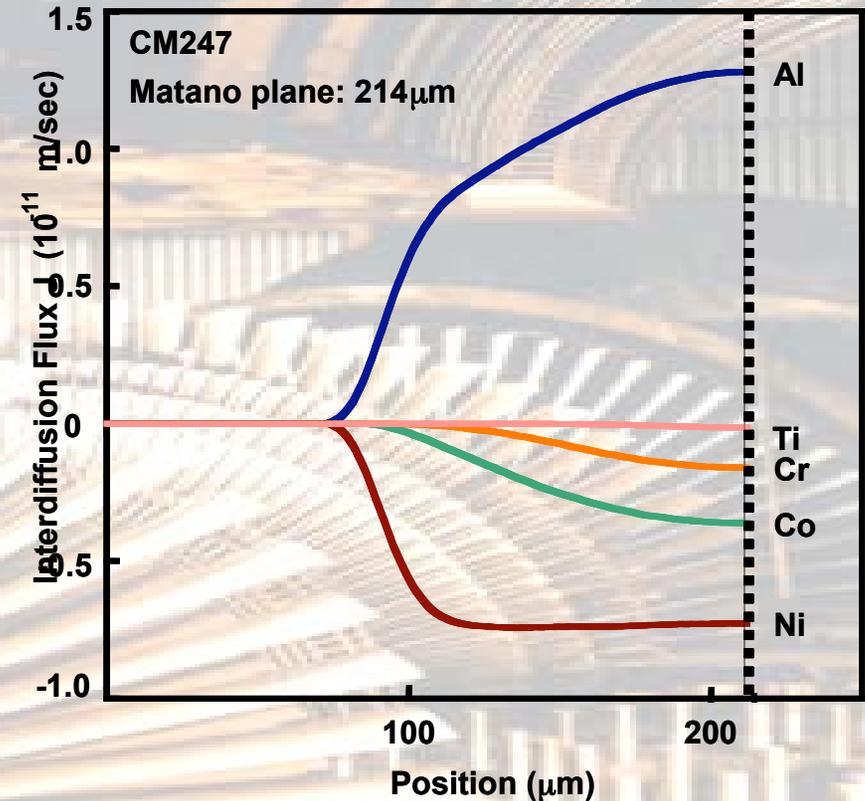
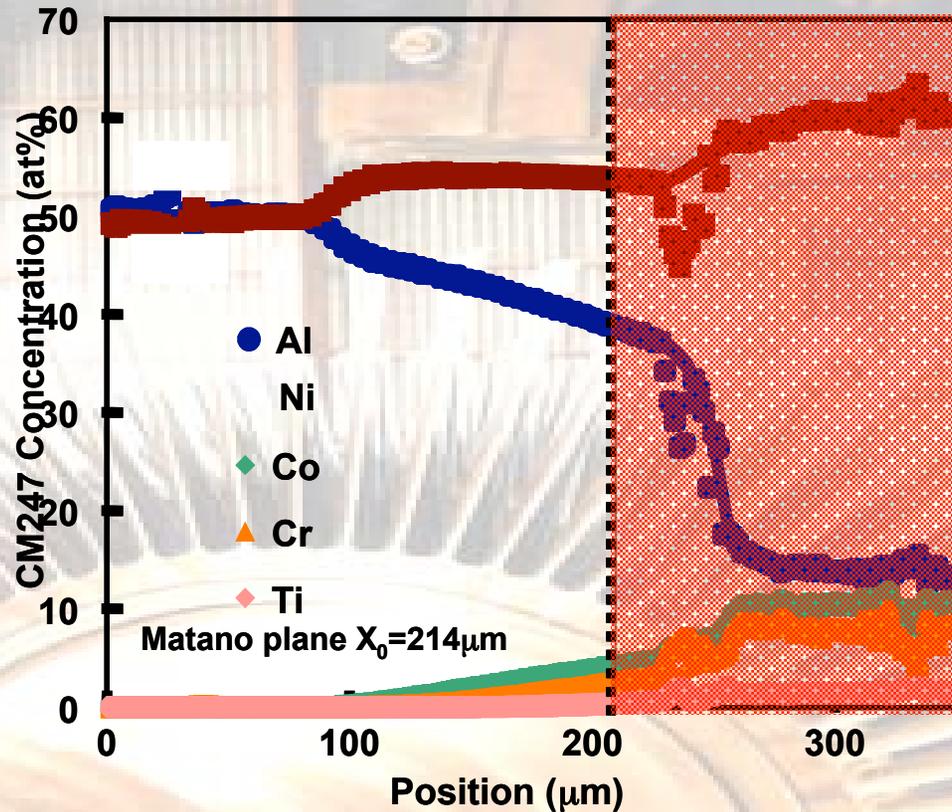
The interdiffusion flux was calculated only on the NiAl side (i.e., single-phase region) of the couple using estimated mass-balance frame of reference (e.g., Matano plane determined by concentration profiles and microscopy).

# Profiles of Concentration and Interdiffusion Flux (NiAl vs. IN738 Annealed at 1050°C for 96 Hours)



The interdiffusion flux was calculated only on the NiAl side (i.e., single-phase region) of the couple using estimated mass-balance frame of reference (e.g., Matano plane determined by concentration profiles and microscopy).

## Profiles of Concentration and Interdiffusion Flux (NiAl vs. CM247 Annealed at 1050°C for 96 Hours)



The interdiffusion flux was calculated only on the NiAl side (i.e., single-phase region) of the couple using estimated mass-balance frame of reference (e.g., Matano plane determined by concentration profiles and microscopy).

# Interdiffusion Coefficients of Al

## Calculated for NiAl and Predicted\* for Superalloy

**NiAl Side Calculated  
with Concentration Profiles**

| Aluminum  | $D_{NiAl}^{Int}$        | $D_{NiAl}^{app}$    | $D_{NiAl}^{eff}$ |
|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Alloy     | $10^{-15}(m^2/sec)at\%$ | $10^{-15}(m^2/sec)$ |                  |
| CM247     | 1.31                    | 4.15                | 11.2             |
| GTD111    | 1.56                    | 3.65                | 10.2             |
| IN738     | 1.58                    | 4.06                | 11.2             |
| IN939     | 1.50                    | 3.02                | 8.47             |
| Waspalloy | 2.16                    | 5.45                | 14.4             |

**Superalloy Side Predicted with  
Correlations\* in Interdiffusion Coefficients**

| Aluminum  | $D_{SA}^{Int}$          | $D_{SA}^{app}$      | $D_{SA}^{eff}$ |
|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Alloy     | $10^{-15}(m^2/sec)at\%$ | $10^{-15}(m^2/sec)$ |                |
| CM247     | 0.62                    | 0.92                | 2.89           |
| GTD111    | 0.86                    | 1.11                | 3.48           |
| IN738     | 0.83                    | 1.11                | 3.49           |
| IN939     | 0.92                    | 1.14                | 3.59           |
| Waspalloy | 0.98                    | 1.13                | 3.54           |

### Correlations\*

$$\frac{C_i^- - C_i^0}{C_i^0 - C_i^+} = \frac{\alpha_{i,SA}}{\alpha_{i,NiAl}} \sqrt{\frac{\tilde{D}_{i,NiAl}^{eff}}{\tilde{D}_{i,SA}^{eff}}} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{C_i^- - C_i^0}{C_i^0 - C_i^+} = \sqrt{\frac{\tilde{D}_{i,NiAl}^{app}}{\tilde{D}_{i,SA}^{app}}}$$

Integrated, apparent and effective interdiffusion coefficients for multiphase region (i.e., superalloys and precipitates) can be predicted.

$D^{eff}$  determined based on  $\alpha_i = \sqrt{\pi}$

# Interdiffusion Coefficients of Al Predicted and Estimated\* for Superalloy

**Predicted Interdiffusion Coefficients for Superalloys**

| Aluminum  | $D_{SA}^{Int}$          | $D_{SA}^{app}$      | $D_{SA}^{eff}$ |
|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Alloy     | $10^{-15}(m^2/sec)at\%$ | $10^{-15}(m^2/sec)$ |                |
| CM247     | 0.62                    | 0.92                | 2.89           |
| GTD111    | 0.86                    | 1.11                | 3.48           |
| IN738     | 0.83                    | 1.11                | 3.49           |
| IN939     | 0.92                    | 1.14                | 3.59           |
| Waspalloy | 0.98                    | 1.13                | 3.54           |

**Estimated\* Interdiffusion Coefficients for Superalloys**

| Aluminum  | $D_{SA}^{Int}$          | $D_{SA}^{app}$      | $D_{SA}^{eff}$ |
|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Alloy     | $10^{-15}(m^2/sec)at\%$ | $10^{-15}(m^2/sec)$ |                |
| CM247     | 0.52                    | 0.92                | 2.08           |
| GTD111    | 0.64                    | 1.11                | 2.30           |
| IN738     | 0.96                    | 2.15                | 3.57           |
| IN939     | 0.85                    | 1.14                | 2.95           |
| Waspalloy | 0.98                    | 1.13                | 2.97           |

Predicted using correlations in interdiffusion coefficients.

$D^{eff}$  determined based on  $\alpha_i = \sqrt{\pi}$

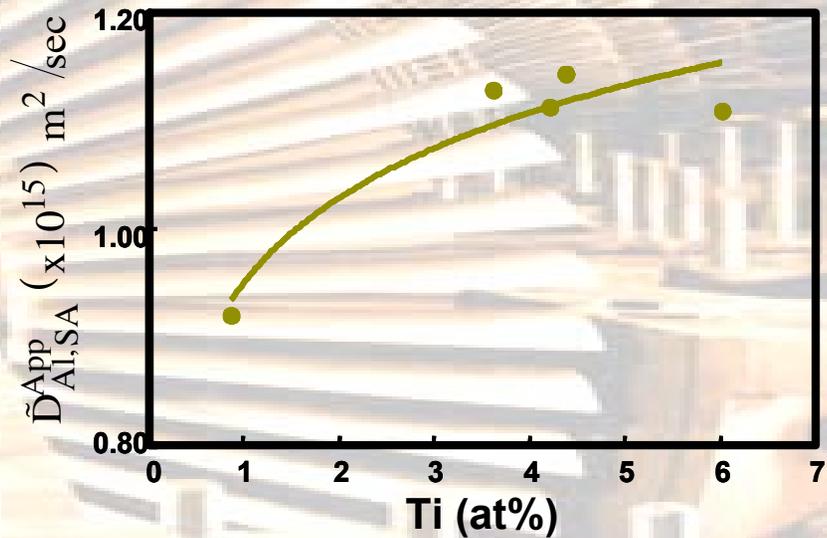
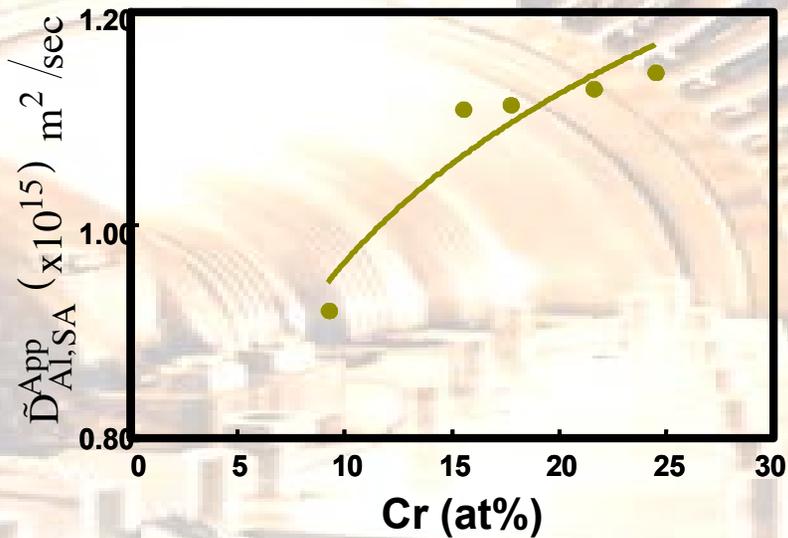
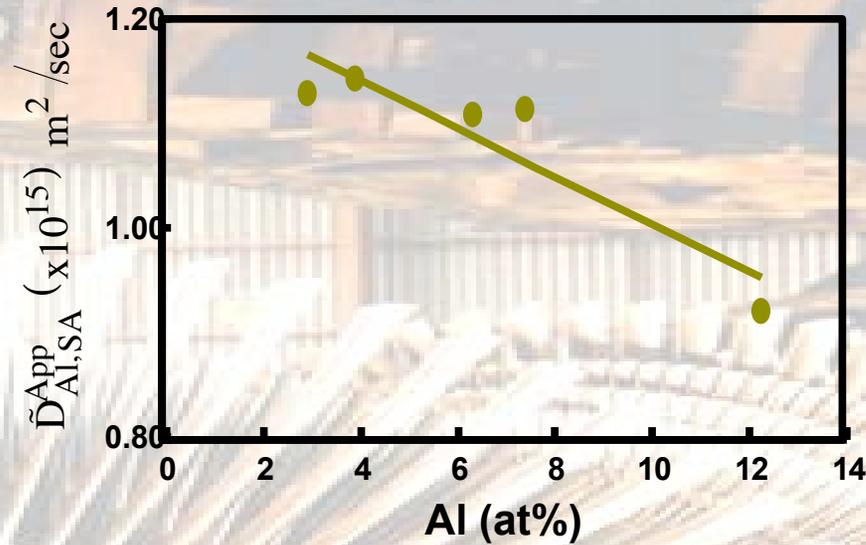
\*Estimation using spline-fitted concentration profile through the scatter in multiphase region in superalloys

# Integrated Diffusion Coefficient (i.e., Total Interdiffusion Flux) of Al in Various Superalloys

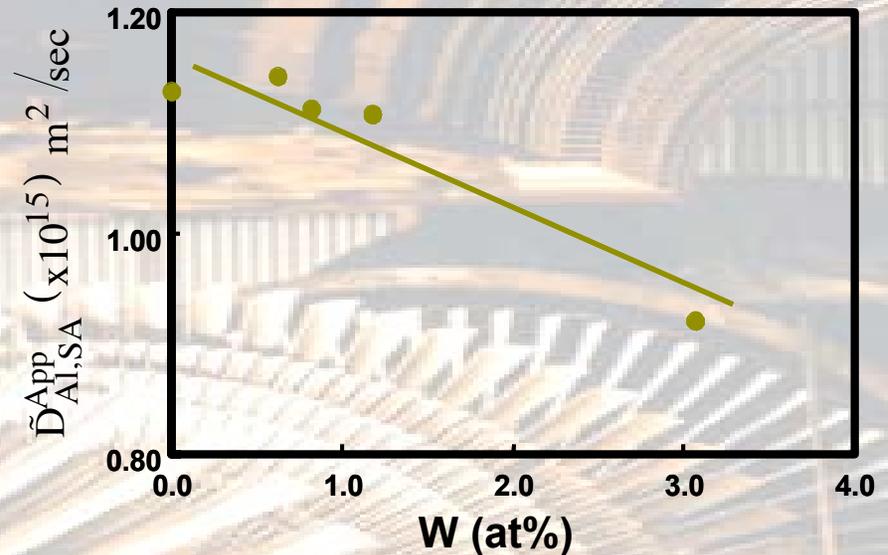
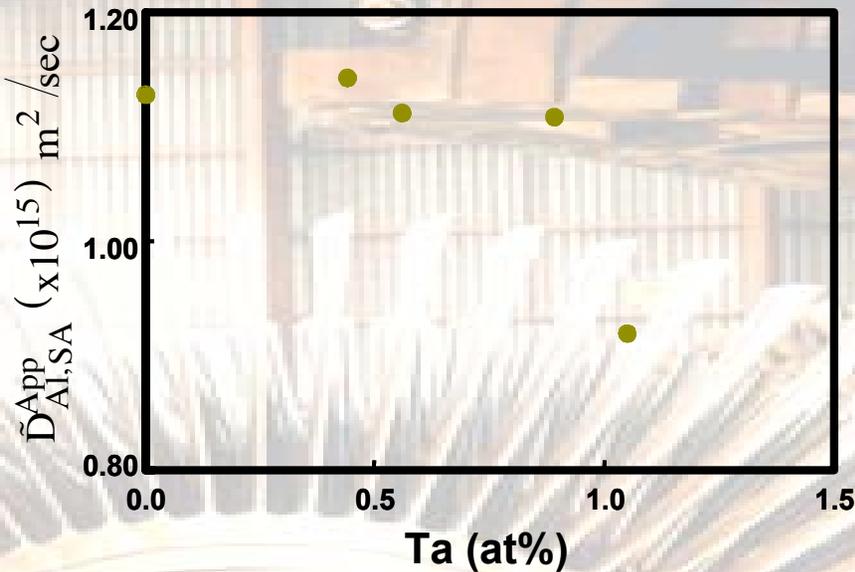
| Aluminum  | $\tilde{D}_{Al, Total}^{Int}$                |
|-----------|--|
| Alloy     | $10^{-15}(\text{m}^2/\text{sec})\text{at}\%$ |
| CM247     | 1.83   |
| GTD111    | 2.20   |
| IN738     | 2.54   |
| IN939     | 2.34   |
| Waspalloy | 3.14   |

- The integrated interdiffusion coefficient for the entire profile employs that calculated from the NiAl side (i.e., single-phase region) of the couple and that predicted for the superalloy side (i.e., multiphase-region).
- The integrated interdiffusion coefficient indicates the overall interdiffusion flux for each diffusion couples.

# Variation of Apparent Diffusion Coefficients with Initial Superalloy Composition



# Variation of Apparent Diffusion Coefficients with Initial Superalloy Composition



**Apparent Al interdiffusion coefficients in superalloys increased with increases in Cr and Ti concentrations, but decreased with increases in Al, Ta and W concentrations in the superalloys.**

# Summary

- ❁ **Solid-to-solid diffusion couples studies using  $\beta$ -NiAl vs. CM247, GTD111, IN738, IN939 and Waspalloy were carried out.**
- ❁ **Integrated, effective and apparent interdiffusion coefficients from single-phase region ( $\beta$ -NiAl) were calculated based on concentration profiles determined by EPMA.**
- ❁ **Integrated, effective and apparent interdiffusion coefficients in the multiphase phase region (superalloys) were predicted.**
- ❁ **Apparent Al interdiffusion coefficients in superalloys increased with increases in Cr and Ti concentrations, but decreased with increases in Al, Ta and W concentrations in superalloys.**
- ❁ **Experimental work is in progress to determine the magnitude of compositional dependence (i.e., cross interdiffusion coefficients).**